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Trinidad and Tobago

Post: Miami ATO

Trinidad and Tobago Imposes Surcharge on Poultry

Report Categories:

Policy and Program Announcements

Trade Policy Monitoring

Trade Policy Incident Report

Poultry and Products

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Report Highlights:

On March 11, 2013 Trinidad and Tobago imposed a 15 percent surcharge on imports of most chicken products. This surcharge is above and beyond the 40 percent Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Common External Tariff (CET) which Trinidad and Tobago already applies to most all poultry products.

General Information:

On March 11, 2013 the Government of Trinidad and Tobago (GOTT) imposed a 15 percent surcharge on imports under nine poultry tariff headings. This was done by an amendment to the Miscellaneous Taxes Act (Seventh Schedule). The affected tariff headings are listed below:

Tariff Heading	Description of Goods	Applied Duty Rate	Rate of Surcharge
	Of fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i> :		
0207.11.00	Not cut in pieces, fresh or chilled	40%	15%
0207.12.00	Not cut in pieces, frozen	40%	15%
0207.13.00	Cuts and offal, fresh or chilled	40%	15%
0207.14.00	Cuts and offal frozen:	40%	15%
0207.14.10	Backs and necks	40%	15%
0207.14.20	Wings	40%	15%
0207.14.30	Livers	40%	15%
0207.14.90	Other	40%	15%
	Of poultry of heading 01.05:		
1602.32.00	Of fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i>	20%	15%

Source: Miscellaneous Taxes (Seventh Schedule)(Amendment) Order, 2013. Applied duty rates refer to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Common External Tariff (CET) as specified in Trinidad and Tobago's Customs Act.

Poultry meat is the single largest U.S. agricultural export category to the Caribbean. In 2012 the United States exported a record high \$444 million in poultry meat to the region. Trinidad and Tobago (TT) is the fifth largest Caribbean market for U.S. poultry meat, with \$29.3 million in U.S. exports in 2012. The tariff headings listed above represent the lion's share of U.S. poultry meat exports to TT (86 percent), meaning the prices of most imported U.S. (and other origin) poultry products in TT are likely to see an increase as a result of this new surcharge.